

# The ANSGAR LUTHERAN

## Martin Luther

To Pray Well is Half the Study

By Elgin S. Moyer

The church of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries had fallen into the grip of gross corruption and worldliness. The leaders in high position had wandered far from apostolic truth, purity and simplicity. The church was sorely in need of reformation.

John Wycliffe of England and Jan Huss of Bohemia had made earnest efforts to bring about reform among their people. They and their followers had preached the word with fervor, and hopes for a better day had dawned. Yet the church remained corrupt. One historian says, "The lives of papal officials and often of the popes themselves were scandalous and vile. The papal court was entirely emanated from morality." Another says, "The conditions could not exist at Rome without affecting the whole church. Never was a reformation of the church 'in head and members' more sorely needed."

At such a time of need, just one hundred years after the death of Wycliffe, and seventy years after Huss had been burned at the stake as a reformer, God brought Martin Luther into the world.

Young Luther was born on November 10, 1483, in Eisleben, Germany. He was the eldest of seven in the family of Hans and Margaret Luther, staunch members of the Roman Catholic Church. They were sturdy, hard-working peasants. His father was self-reliant, enterpris-

---

**Oct. 31 is Reformation Day and here is a story about Martin Luther from the Gospel Messenger written by a non-Lutheran. We think it is a good story.**

---

ing and energetic, but poor. The mother was a hard-working, faithful, but strict and serious-minded woman. She was pious but superstitious and taught her children to pray not only to God, but also to "the dear saints."

The children were taught the Creed, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer and some simple hymns and chants. They were also taught that the emperor was God's ruler on earth, that the church was the house of the pope, and that the pope was God's representative on earth. They also heard much about the devil and the evil spirits which filled the air and the water, the forests and the meadows, the mountains and the valleys, and did great harm to the people and to their cattle. This early training left deep impressions on the mind and spirit of young Luther.

Martin owed much of his strength and nobility of character, his courageous spirit, vigorous humor and rustic rudeness, together with his love for hard work, determination of will and peculiar common-sense conservatism to his parents and grandparents. Though austere and

exacting in their discipline, the parents had a great concern for their children and worked hard to rear and educate them.

It became necessary for Luther to support himself in securing his secondary education. This he did by singing on the streets until Frau Ursula Cotta and her husband, a wealthy merchant, pleased with his singing, invited him into their home. While living for three years in this home of culture, he formed many friendships among the Franciscan monks, came under the influence of the Renaissance and further developed his ability to sing hymns and play the flute. All these things had much bearing upon his later life and work.

After he was eighteen he spent three years at the celebrated University of Erfurt, where he distinguished himself as a university student. His fellow students called him "the learned philosopher" and "the musician." In 1505 he received what today would be termed his Doctor of Philosophy degree.

During his university life Luther was a good pious Catholic. His religious nature and his spiritual sensitiveness led him into a search for freedom from sin, for assurance of salvation and for peace of mind. One step in this quest was his entrance into an Augustinian monastery, where he became a monk at the age of twenty-three, and a priest the year following.

About this time Luther came into possession of a copy of the Holy Bible. He so diligently studied this Bible that he became known as one of the most learned of the Augustinian monks. His study of Paul's  
(Continued on page 9)



# News and Notes

*Let Brotherly Love Continue!*

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING CLOTHING APPEAL

**CLOTHES  
for the  
NAKED!**



through  
**Lutheran World Relief**  
202 SHAFER AVENUE  
PHILLIPSBURG, N. J.



Clothing may be sent to your nearest Collection Center.

## ILLINOIS W.M.S.

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Women's Missionary Society was held Sept. 17, 1954 in the Atonement Lutheran Church, Chicago, Illinois.

Preliminary meeting was opened by our vice-president, Mrs. Carl Christiansen. Mrs. Olga Johnson read the 100th Psalm and led in prayer. All delegates and Pastors' wives were asked to sign the register. The following committees were selected:

### Nominating Committee:

Mrs. Jepsen, Webster Groves, Mo.  
Mrs. J. Lorentzen, LaGrange, Ill.  
Mrs. Fred C. M. Hansen, Golgotha, Chicago, Ill.

### Auditing Committee:

Mrs. Ray Groh, Greenville, Mich.  
Mrs. Howe, Webster Groves, Mo.

Afternoon session was called to order by vice-president, Mrs. Carl Christiansen. Scripture reading and prayer by Mrs. Donald Hansen. After the devotion our vice-president suggested that we have a moment of silent prayer in memory of our president, Mrs. Oliver Rasmussen. Mrs. White of Atonement W.M.S. brought a welcome to delegates and guests.

Report of the vice-president taking the place of the president was read and accepted. Treasurer reported as follows: Total receipts for 1953 \$868.40 plus a

balance of \$224.24, disbursements \$907.82, leaving a balance of \$184.82. Statistical secretary reported a total membership of 511 members in 17 societies of the Illinois District. There is a new society organized in Edmore, Michigan under the name of Our Savior's Guild.

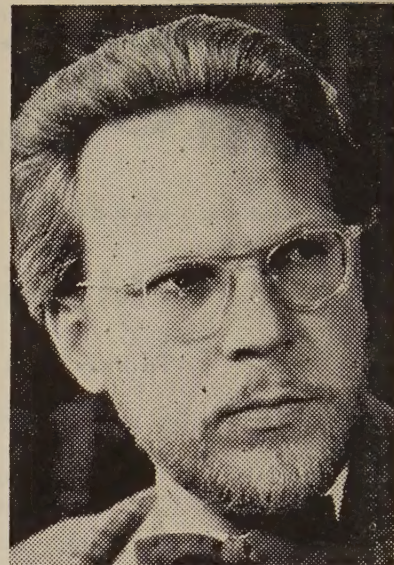
Project Chairman, Mrs. Carl Christiansen made her report and also read letters of thanks from Rev. Jack Jacobsen, Mr. Harold Andersen of Bass Lake Bible Camp and Pastor Johnsen in Detroit, Mich. Total receipts \$420.90; total cost of project \$404.90, leaving a balance of \$16.00 plus refund from Gerber Baby Food Company of \$11.88 making a total balance of \$27.88.

Mrs. Axel Andersen, Webster Groves, Mo., our representative to the National W.M.S., gave her report from the annual meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and carried that \$100.00 be taken out of the treasury to be given as a memorial gift for our late president, Mrs. Oliver Rasmussen for her home church in Clifton, Illinois. This gift to be something for the Altar of the Church.

A motion made, seconded and carried that we have a project for 1954 and 1955. Amount of this project to be \$400.00.

(Continued on page 6)



NOTED PIANIST AT DANA

Dr. Claus Bahnson, noted Danish pianist, will present a concert at the Dana College Auditorium on Tuesday evening, October 26, at 8:15 o'clock. This is the only concert he will give in the central Midwest. The young Danish pianist is returning to New York after a concert tour of West Coast cities. Critics in the great music centers of Europe have acclaimed him for his "richly shaded art of touch," and for his "burning enthusiasm and sparkling technique." A Stockholm critic wrote: "The great program was played with no mystification, no mannerism."

The program at Dana will include Bach and Schubert as well as such contemporary Scandinavians as Carl Nielsen and Harold Sæverud. The Dana Chapter, The American-Scandinavian Foundation is in charge of the event.

\*\*\*\*\*  
★ **The 59th Annual Convention of** ★  
★ **the United Evangelical Luther-** ★  
★ **an Church will be held, God will-** ★  
★ **ing, at St. Paul's Lutheran** ★  
★ **Church, 3755 Cortland Street,** ★  
★ **Lynwood, Calif. June 21-26, 1955** ★  
★ **beginning with an opening ser-** ★  
★ **vice the evening of Tuesday,** ★  
★ **June 21,** ★  
★ **Hans C. Jersild, President** ★  
★ **Lawrence Siersbeck, Secretary** ★  
★ **\*\*\*\*\*** ★

**THE ANSGAR LUTHERAN.** Official Organ of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, published weekly by Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr.

Otto H. Stave, Business Manager. Subscription price: United States and Canada, \$3.00 per year in advance; foreign countries, \$4.00. All communications that concern the Editorial Department, news items and books to be reviewed should be sent to the editor at Spencer, Ia. Everything pertaining to the Youth Department should be sent to Rev. Homer Larsen, 904 Bluff St., Cedar Falls, Ia. A special club rate of \$2.00 per year is offered Bible classes and organizations of the church when ten or more copies are sent to one address, and \$2.00 a year if the congregation has The Ansgar Lutheran in every home—**Church Paper in Every Home Plan.** Subscriptions, remittances, change of address, advertisements and all communications pertaining to the Business Department should be sent to the Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr. When CHANGE OF ADDRESS is desired give old as well as new address. Entered as second-class matter, December 14, 1927, at the Post Office at Blair, Nebr., under Act of March 3, 1879.

Much of our news is received from Religious News Service, and the News Bureau of the National Lutheran Council.

JOHN M. JENSEN, Editor  
321 E. 8th Street  
Spencer, Iowa



# Editorials and Comments

## WE ARE OFF TO A GOOD START

We refer you to the next page, where we have a report of the American Lutheran Church's unanimous vote on the proposed merger. It heartens us that the vote was so decisive.

We are now off to a good start. Early in November the Joint Union Committee of 36 will meet in Minneapolis. Preliminary work on the Charter and Constitution is already begun.

We are off to a good start, because God is with us.

It has been remarkable to follow this merger movement from the beginning. Doubts were expressed, difficulties were encountered, but we seemed to be carried forward by the power of God, for we always came out with unanimous decisions. This certainly is a modern miracle.

We would like to make all our readers a part of this miracle. Just as when a congregation builds a new church, every member feels a part of it, so we should all feel a part of this new church which is in process of being built (organized). We rejoice. We are off to a good start.

## THE NEXT THREE YEARS

With the unanimous vote in favor of the merger of the American Lutheran Church, we enter upon some very important years. We are certain that the Joint Union Committee will be able to work out the charter and the constitution of the articles of union within the next two years or so. There are certain practical things which we think should be done.

Even though the vote in 1956 is to decide whether we are actually to merge or not, we better take for granted right now that the vote will be overwhelmingly in favor. In one sense we have reached the point of no return. This will naturally influence our thinking and our attitude to many things in the church. We can well understand the motion at the American Lutheran Church convention which urged speed in the final consummation of the merger. The closer we get to it the sooner we want to have it realized. That does not mean that we should rush things unduly, but we believe things will be rushing us. The things to be done are, of course, many. We think of such a problem as that of our publication work. The report calls for one church paper of the new church. That means that the existing church papers will have to be of existence and a new one take their place. The question is if this new church paper should not be planned so that it can be published the same week as the new church begins to function. That will certainly help us to merge more easily. For merging is a process. This process will not gain momentum before we have actually merged. The new paper will tell every congregation and every member that the merger is now a fact.

It seems to us that a committee should already now be studying what kind of a paper we want.

It is not only the church paper, but there is the whole field of Sunday School literature and Sunday School papers, and, yes, the whole field of publication should now be studied. We have plans ready to go into effect as soon as the new church begins to function.

Then there is the problem of the conferences in the new church. According to the report of the Joint Union Committee, the smaller unit within the districts will be named conferences, not circuits. It would seem to us that the present pastors of the districts should very soon draw up the geographical areas of the conferences. As soon as they are drawn up, then the pastors of these conferences should begin to meet.

Some meetings should also be held where the lay members, the brotherhoods, the women's auxiliaries, the Luther League, etc. could meet.

If we had a few such meetings before the merger actually started to function the ice would already be broken, when we meet the first time as actual conferences. We believe this is of great importance. The fact is that unless something like this is done, we are each committed to our own circuits and districts and synods in such a way that we have very little time even to think of getting to know our neighbor pastor of the other groups.

These conferences would be like dating the girl you are going to marry. The more dates the better. And even if we have many dates, it will not be before we are actually married, that we begin to get really acquainted. We met a pastor not long ago who said that we did not know each other very well. He meant the merging groups. We said to him that this is natural, for we are all so busy with the duties in our own churches. Not before the actual merger takes place will we really begin to get together.

So let us make arrangement for "dates."

We can write a great deal about this subject. The schools and colleges will no doubt not create as many problems as we sometimes think. There will be an increased enrollment in the colleges, so most of them will simply continue as before the merger. But the boards of education of the four churches should certainly begin to think of the future and plan accordingly.

Now that we are engaged we must act like engaged couples. They plan to marry, and the one partner will not go and invest in something the other partner already has, since by marriage mine will be yours and yours will be mine.

Here we believe that our school board should already now begin to plan that Trinity Seminary will not function in the new church. Perhaps we should therefore plan to discontinue our seminary in 1956 as soon as the final vote is taken and the date for the new church is set. This could well be done in view of the fact that we have sufficient pastors. At present we have almost too many. It is always well to have five vacant congregations in our synod. It is well for the pastors and for the congregations. Thus the pastors have a chance to move. This is important both for the pastors and the congregations.

If we planned to discontinue the seminary in 1956, we could tell prospective students to go elsewhere to study.

And let us also say here that if it should be difficult this coming spring to find calls for the men that will graduate, why not suggest that they seek admission into one of the synods with which we expect to merge. By the way, we believe it will be all right that as soon as we have the vote in 1956, that students and even pastors begin to accept calls which are not of their own synod.

The foreign missions will not be so difficult to consolidate. It goes without saying that the present fields in which the different churches work will all be taken over by the new church. Our synod supports missionaries in Sudan, Africa, in connection with the Danish Sudan Mission of Denmark. Our missionaries there may feel that they will rather work with the Sudan mission of the new church. At present E.L.C. has a mission field in Sudan. But that should not create any difficulty.

The home mission program will be merged, and no doubt plans ought to be studied a good deal before the merger goes into effect.

Well, these are some of the things that we believe should now begin to be studied very seriously. We have come so far in this planned marriage that we may well begin to buy furniture for the new home.



# ALC Gives Unanimous Approval to Four-Way Merger Proposal

Without a dissenting voice, the American Lutheran Church voted at its 13th biennial convention at Beatrice, Nebr., to continue negotiations toward organic union with three other Lutheran church bodies.

No opposition was expressed to the proposed merger, which would result in a church body of more than 1,800,000 members, either from the floor or during an earlier open hearing. Total discussion of the subject consumed less than two hours. Nearly all the speaking consisted of supporting statements, clarification of procedures and questions on some specific details.

Displaying an obvious impatience for quick action, delegates gave a resounding, unanimous "aye" to each of five resolutions proposed by the Joint Union Committee, the 825,000-member ALC thus becoming the last of the four bodies to act on the second major step in merger negotiations that have been carried on since 1950.

The 920,000-member Evangelical Lutheran Church and the 54,000-member United Evangelical Lutheran Church adopted the proposal at their conventions last June, while the 64,000-member Lutheran Free Church referred them for study to local congregations during the coming year, with a vote scheduled in 1955.

Two years ago, all four bodies took the first step in their current negotiations by adopting a doctrinal statement known as "The United Testimony of Faith and Life."

By their affirmative vote, ALC delegates endorsed the Joint Union Committee's report on polity and organization, consisting of preliminary plans for the structure of the new church; authorized the committee to prepare all necessary additional documents; and approved a definite vote on merger in 1956.

**In an additional resolution, the Joint Union Committee was urged to prepare without delay prospective articles of incorporation, constitution, by-laws and articles of union "so that final vote on the acceptance of these documents can be taken as soon as possible."**

It was stressed that formation of the new merged church cannot take place until these documents have been completed and accepted by the interested church bodies.

The ALC's "definite vote" on merger in 1956, if affirmative, will not become final, it was said, until ratified by its 13 districts and until the church accepts the various merger documents to be prepared in the next two years.

**In a brief statement to the convention, Dr. Edward C. Fendt, dean of Capital University's Theological Seminary and a member of the Joint Union Committee, declared that "we are not veering to the right or left, we are veering in God's direction."**

**Asserting that the four negotiating bodies have no intention of creating a bloc as over against other groups, Dr. Fendt added that the merger "is not a matter of power politics, but of Kingdom building."**

About a half dozen speakers were heard, among them two who pleaded for action on immediate merger, and discussion ceased after about an hour when it became apparent, through repeated calls for the question, that the delegates were eager to bring the matter to a decision. After the unanimous action, delegates arose and were led in prayer by the convention chaplain.

At the public hearing to which merger matters were assigned, the one point which received discussion was that of the differing methods that prevail in the ALC and ELC on financing the erection of new college buildings.

Dr. Henry F. Schuh, president of the Church, pointed out that the structural blueprint before the convention did not go into such specific questions as financing capital improvements at the colleges. He assured the delegates that this was one of the many questions which would be discussed in the next biennium as the negotiating bodies tackled the import-

ant task of preparing a constitution and other documents the proposed new Church.

**In another action, hailed by Dr. Fendt as "a milestone Lutheran history," the ALC gave unanimous approval Part II of a statement of doctrinal agreement with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.**

Known as the "Common Confession," the document is divided into two parts. Part I has already been adopted by all four bodies. Part II, intended as a supplement, was received by the Missouri Synod at its triennial convention last year and referred to its congregations for study, with action scheduled in 1956.

It was stressed here that the Common Confession "does not claim to be a complete review of the Christian faith and life," but is "a formulation of many Christian doctrines held and taught" in the ALC and Missouri Synod. Further it was said, "it expresses a common and united devotion to the Word of God."

The ALC's Committee on Union and Fellowship suggested in its formal report that negotiations with the Missouri Synod be continued "in the hope that pulpit and altar fellowship may soon be established between the two church bodies on the basis of doctrine and practice." However, resolutions brought to the convention made no mention of this and gave no indication of the course that will be followed in the future on this matter.

In a brief discussion before the vote was taken, Dr. Schuh declared that there was "complete agreement" between the Common Confession and the United Testimony of Faith and Life adopted by the four groups negotiating merger.

Taking note of the expected dissolution of the American Lutheran Conference, at its meeting at Minneapolis in November, the Church charged Dr. Schuh and the Committee on Union and Fellowship "to maintain the bond of fellowship" established with the other member bodies of the Conference "by whatever means are appropriate and mutually acceptable to each of these church bodies."

The union committee was also asked to meet for further discussion with the United Lutheran Church in America's Special Commission on Relations to American Lutheran Church bodies in the U.S.A. Gratitude was expressed for "the present degree of understanding and cooperation" between the ALC and ULCA.

Delegates urged the administration of the ALC to work toward "an ever closer relationship" to the United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Australia, whose president, the Rev. Max Lohe, was guest at the convention here. He has been in the U.S. since July and will return home late in October.

A resolution adopted in 1950 was reaffirmed, stating that "we are committed to the ultimate unity of all Lutherans in America and pledge our whole-hearted support to efforts in that direction."

Dr. Schuh, as president of the Church, was authorized to "encourage efforts to establish official all-Lutheran Forums, or, as the opportunity arises, to initiate such efforts." The spokesman explained that "forums" meant conferences and conversations on unity.

Also reaffirmed was a decision not to seek membership in the National Council of Churches "at this moment." The original action was taken in 1952, at which time it was said that membership in NCCUSA would "involve a drastic change in the deep going polity in large areas of our Church life," and would "increase the hindrance in present merger negotiations." This year's report said that these reasons for the Church's decision have not changed.

Other resolutions adopted on merger matters voiced the ALC's appreciation and support of the National Lutheran Council, Lutheran World Federation and World Council of Churches.



## CHURCH NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

### Approves Move Toward Lutheran College In California

Beatrice, Neb. —(NLC)— Establishment of a fully accredited four-year Lutheran liberal arts college in California was approved in principle by the American Lutheran Church at its biennial convention here.

Such a college, delegates said in a resolution that was passed unanimously, will strengthen Lutheranism in the West by the training of additional leadership for the Church and nation. In discussion of the proposal, it was pointed out that the undertaking would be too difficult and expensive for a single church body to assume and that, therefore, it would require cooperation of several strong church bodies to be successful.

To this end, the ALC instructed its Board of Higher Education to study and explore the possibilities of cooperation among Lutheran bodies which may be interested in establishing the college.

The study will be carried on in connection with a preliminary steering committee organized in California by representatives of the ALC, Evangelical Lutheran Church and United Lutheran Church in America. Findings probably will be presented at the next convention of the ALC in 1956.

Over the past three years, a special commission, composed of the executive secretaries of the Board of Higher Education of the ALC, ELC and ULCA, has made a careful and thorough study of "the needs and possibilities" of a Lutheran college in California and has concluded that such a school would be desirable, preferably located in the Los Angeles area.

In another action, delegates declined recommendation to seek cooperation in the operation and administration of the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, Calif., of the United Lutheran Church. The request came from the California District of the ALC and was endorsed in a close vote by the steering committee for presentation to the convention.

In defeating the proposal, delegates supported the view of the Board of Higher Education that it was "not wise to take such action" for several reasons.

The board pointed out that the ALC, ULCA synods concerned are not pulpits and altar fellowship.

It also noted that the policy of the ALC is not to increase the decentralization of seminary training but rather to integrate both curriculum and stu-

dent body in the theology and practices of the ALC.

And it said further that since merger is pending with other Lutheran bodies the seminary problems involved "should not be increased in complexity by any additional seminary affiliations at the present time."

At present, the ALC cooperates in the theological seminary of the ULCA at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, on the basis that doctrinal agreement exists among the Lutheran groups in Canada.

The convention also asked the ALC's Committee on Union and Fellowship to negotiate with the other three bodies in the proposed four-way merger in order to provide post-graduate courses in theology leading to advanced degrees in the seminary of the merged Church. The other groups involved are the Evangelical, United Evangelical and Lutheran Free Churches.

### Dr. Birkeli: Missionaries Work In Closed Doors Era

New York—Missionaries of our times work in "an era of closed and closing doors" and must therefore more than ever remember that Jesus Christ "walked through closed doors to His disciples" all His life from birth to resurrection.

This was stated here by Dr. Fridtjov Birkeli of Norway, who took office as director of the Lutheran World Federation's Department of World Missions on May 1, 1954.

Visiting the United States in connection with the World Council of Churches Second Assembly at Evanston, as a delegate of the Church of Norway, Dr. Birkeli was honored before his return to Geneva, at a luncheon here given jointly by the International Missionary Council and the National Lutheran Council's Commission on Younger Churches and Orphaned Missions.

A son of missionary parents, Dr. Birkeli served for several years in the Norwegian Mission Society's field in Madagascar, and his experience there led him to the study of relations between politics and mission work. A thesis on this topic recently earned him a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Oslo.

The study, he said, also led him to realize that Christian mission work is "very realistic, existential" work and not, as often thought, "something between heaven and earth." Missionaries, he added, should become increasingly conscious of the sociological aspects of their efforts.

Speaking of his future work in the (Continued from page 6)

### "FORWARD WITH CHRIST"

The above words have been chosen by your Promotion Committee as the name for our \$350,000.00 ingathering.

In order that you may know that we are earnestly engaged in laying plans for this major effort let us first tell you that it was not possible for the committee, composed of Mr. P. C. Clemmensen from the Church Council, Mr. Harold T. Carver from the School Board, Rev. K. M. Matthiesen from the Board of Home Missions, Rev. Homer Larsen from the Pension Fund Board, Rev. Fred Jacobsen and Mr. Arnold Christensen from the Synod at large, and the Synodical President, to meet before Sept. 14. At that meeting Mr. Harold T. Carver was chosen chairman and Mr. P. C. Clemmensen, secretary. Preliminary plans were made. Another meeting will be held Nov. 1 after which something definite will be announced and machinery will be set in motion to complete the ingathering this spring.

Traveling to many parts of our Synod this summer and fall visiting in a goodly number of our congregations we have met a fine interest in this undertaking. We are anticipating a most hearty response. May the abundant benediction of God rest upon our "Forward With Christ" ingathering. We have great promises from His Word about the rich returns coming from giving to His cause. It is ministering to the best and the highest for the souls of men. For the Gospel of Jesus Christ proclaimed and administered grants the most precious blessings to all who with repentant and believing hearts accept it. All else is as nought compared to the wondrous things which God in Christ through our instrumentality will by the power of His Spirit through His Word do for men.

We invite you to stand in readiness at THE APPOINTED TIME to do your part for "Forward With Christ."

Yours in the Service of the Lord,  
Hans C. Jersild.



Lutheran World Federation, Dr. Birkeli stressed that "to me, for many years, the International Missionary Council meant the ecumenical movement," and pledged himself to continued cooperation with the Council.

Promising that "we intend to go ahead in this ecumenical setting," he said, "it is a Christian duty to contribute to brotherly cooperation," though, on the other hand, "we will not hide that we are Lutherans."

As for the present outlook in mission work, Dr. Birkeli warned against "fooling ourselves" about bright prospects.

"We are," he said, "working in an era of closed and closing doors, and the number of closed doors may be greatest in Europe."

#### **American Lutherans To Oust Divorced Pastors**

Beatrice, Neb.—Delegates to the 13th biennial convention here of the American Lutheran Church adopted a directive that any pastor found to be the guilty party in a divorce, after a hearing by a district committee on appeals, "shall be disqualified from further ministerial service."

"The divorce evil," the statement said, "is a menace to the sanctity of the home and family, these basic units of the Church and human society." It stressed that the church "has the solemn responsibility of watchfulness against the danger that her witness, foremost through her ministry, be not hindered by an offensive situation in the lives of her pastors."

#### **Lutherans Set Thanksgiving Clothing Appeal**

New York—The annual Thanksgiving Clothing Appeal sponsored by Lutheran World Relief will be held from Nov. 21 to 28, it was announced here by Bernard A. Confer, executive director. LWR is the aid agency of the National Lutheran Council.

"Reports from overseas underscore the present urgent need," Mr. Confer said.

He urged that, wherever feasible,

Lutheran congregations cooperate in a coordinated gathering of used clothing to fill railroad carlots of 15,000 pounds each.

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, which is not a Council member, also is calling upon its congregations to gather clothing at Thanksgiving, Mr. Confer said, and in some areas Missouri Synod churches work with NLC member churches to fill boxcars. LWR pays the freight charges for shipment of all such carloads gathered.

Seven depots for the reception of clothing collected have been set up, including a new one at San Antonio, Tex. Former depots that will be used again are at Phillipsburg, N. J.; New Windsor, Md.; Nappanee, Ind.; Minneapolis, Minn., and Los Angeles and Oakland, Calif.

#### **Lutherans Set Conference On Mobility**

Chicago—Plans for a Lutheran Conference on Mobility to discuss "the mid-century population upheaval" and its effects on the life of the Church will be held in Detroit, Dec. 14-16.

Dr. H. Conrad Hoyer, executive secretary of the National Lutheran Council's Division of American Missions, said here that 100 to 150 Lutheran leaders will be invited to the meeting, including church officials, pastors, seminary professors and editors.

"The mass movement of people in America challenges the Church," Dr. Hoyer said. "It threatens her life. But it also opens new doors for her witness. Church programs need to be adjusted in order that losses may not be too great and so that opportunities may be used to the full."

Chairman of the conference will be Dr. Oscar A. Benson of Minneapolis, Minn., president of the Augustana Lutheran Church, who also is president of the National Lutheran Council.

#### **Reports India Tightening Up On Missionary Permits**

St. Paul, Minn.—Increasing difficulty in obtaining entry permits for foreign missionaries to go to India was reported at the annual meeting of the

Lutheran Foreign Missions Conference here.

Dr. S. Hjalmar Swanson, Minneapolis, executive director of foreign missions for the Augustana Lutheran Church and Conference president, said "evangelism, the very heart of the mission program, is being opposed" by the Indian government.

#### **6,000 Attend London Spiritual Healing Service**

London—Some 6,000 persons from all parts of the country attended spiritual healing service in Albert Hall here.

Among those present were 17 members of the Church of England's Commission on Divine Healing and representatives of the (Anglican) Church Council of Healing which included three members of the British Medical Association.

The spiritual "healer" at the service was 60-year-old Harry Edwards whose house in Surrey draws a constant stream of sick people and whose sincerity and frequent successes have gained him a reputation.

Chairman of the meeting was Maurice Barbarell, editor of "Two Worlds." He announced that people would be chosen at random from the audience for healing.

After a short religious service, Mr. Edwards invited sufferers from arthritis to come up on the platform. With his coat off and shirtsleeves rolled up he manipulated crippled limbs and painful joints.

The patients moved and stood, some of them claiming it was the first time after years of disability that they were able to do so.

However, Mr. Edwards appeared to be less successful with cases of partial blindness, curvatures of the spine, tuberculosis, deafness and with spastic children.

The Church of England has appointed a commission to study the whole subject of divine healing to give a guide to pastors and church people in the matter.

## **NEWS AND NOTES**

(Continued from page 2)

A motion made, seconded and carried that the project be as follows:

Pleasant Hill Bible Camp and the Santal Mission.

It was decided that each local society in our District remember Ebenezer at Brush, Colo., on their 50th anniversary.

Election of officers as follows:

President: Mrs. Martha Hagen, Atonement Church, Chicago, Ill.

Secretary: Mrs. F. F. Busch, North-

west Trinity Church, Detroit, Mich. Stat. Sec: Mrs. Berthelsen, Kankakee, Illinois.

Auditors: Mrs. Peter Hansen, Greenville, Mich. and Mrs. Eugene LeVine, Trufant, Mich.

Delegates to the National W.M.S. Convention, Mrs. Donald Hansen, Atonement Church, Chicago and alternate Mrs. Fred C. M. Hansen, Golgotha Church, Chicago, Ill.

A very lovely banquet had been arranged by the ladies of our host church to which the men were invited. The

tables were beautifully decorated and a short program was enjoyed. The new officers were installed at this time.

At the evening service the Junior Mission Band of Atonement Church sang, "Onward Christian Soldiers" and then gave a short program of what this small group of boys and girls had been doing the past year. It was most inspiring to all of us to learn how these young folks had been doing missionary work and to hear all the letters of thanks from our missionaries in For-

(Continued on page 11)



## Nebraska District Convention

By Ried Neve

The 50th annual convention of the Nebraska District met in the beautiful surroundings of the Bluffs Trinity Lutheran Church at Fremont, Nebraska, September 23 to 26. A special festive note was added to the convention this year, being a special anniversary of the district. Though the district celebrates its fiftieth year of work this year, several congregations within the district are celebrating other anniversaries. Bluffs Trinity Lutheran, the host congregation, Fredericksburg congregation at Minden, and the congregation at Lindsay, are all celebrating their 75th anniversary this year. The oldest congregation in the district is Immanuel at Hampton which this year celebrates its 80th year. This festival convention of the district began at the Communion Table. Pastor Harold Jorgensen of Blair preached a confessional sermon using the theme, "Who Is At the Head of the Table?" A full church of convention guests together in the local people worshipped and communed together. Taking part in the Sunday services in the Fremont City Auditorium were pastors S. S. Kaldahl and C. A. Vammen of Ames, Okla., and H. Leonard Andersen of Denver. The discussions on the district and congregational topics were a very inspirational and valuable part of the convention. Pastor J. H. Tennesen of Laurel, Nebr. introduced the district topic, "God's Work With Diligence." Diligence as applied to the many phases of the Christian life were brought out by the speaker. The congregational topic, "Visible Fruit of Church-Going," was introduced by Pastor Immanuel Petersen of Ruskin, Nebr. The lack of fruit-bearing in the lives of many, and the conditions for fruit-bearing were brought out by Pastor Petersen in his introduction. It was inspiring to note the fine participation on the part of many people in the audience in the discussions that followed the introduction of the topics. The challenge to a deeper, richer Christian life was certainly left with us in both the discussions. On Friday evening of the convention was in charge of the Women's Missionary Society. Pastor Paul Nyholm of Trinity Lutheran brought a clear and searching message on "Rea-

sons for Doing Foreign Mission Work." We must do it, he stated, for Christ's sake, for the heathen's sake, and for our own sake.

The district Brotherhood held their meeting on Saturday morning. A special breakfast was held at which Pastor Pretty of the Nebraska Lutheran Social Service spoke concerning his work. This is one of the projects in which the district is at work. New officers of the district Brotherhood are Richard Videbeck, president, and T. V. Kastrop, secretary. The WMS held a breakfast at which Pastor Clarence Paulsen spoke. Mrs. Archie Madsen was elected the new secretary of the district WMS. Mrs. Urban Meyer was re-elected president.

The scope of the business of the district was narrowed somewhat since the reorganization of the Home Missions work under the synod. The business of the district was conducted in a very spirited manner by the 19 pastors and 56 lay delegates registered at the convention. A spirit of love and concern for the work of the Kingdom was certainly to be seen throughout the deliberations.

Business of special interest includes the decision to establish a district Stewardship Committee to promote better stewardship in all its phases within the district. It was also decided to prepare and publish a booklet on the history of the Nebraska District. Pastor M. G. Christensen of Omaha was re-elected district president, and Mr. John P. Johnsen of Fremont was re-elected treasurer. A district budget of \$2740.56 for 1954-55 was approved.

Pastor Clarence I. Lund left the district during the year and is now serving the Reedley-Del Rey parish in California. Pastor Vernon Andersen was welcomed into the district.

The convention wishes to express its sincere thanks to the host congregation, and their pastor, Andrew Staby, for their gracious hospitality. Above all we are thankful to God for His guidance throughout the years of work that He has given us as a district. It is our prayer that He will continue to lead, to bless, and to strengthen us, as we are used in this blessed work.

## A Glimpse from the Nebraska District Meeting

By Cecelia Petersen

It was a real inspiration to spend Friday September 24th at the Nebraska District's Fiftieth Annual Convention at Bluffs Trinity Lutheran Church at Fremont. The weather was favorable, the place of most of the meetings in the beautiful church with an atmosphere conducive to worship, the fine spirit of Christian hospitality and efficient management of the details for the comfort of guests on the part of Pastor Staby and his congregation did much to create a good convention.

The business meeting of the morning was carried through in dispatch and harmony. Guests were very appreciative of the "coffee break" which we enjoyed in the pastor's garage. This was followed by the discussion meeting on the topic, "God's Work With Diligence" introduced by Pastor Tennesen of Laurel, Nebr. Very earnest participation on the part of pastors and laymen brought out many helpful suggestions, but it seemed that all who spoke sensed the fact that all work one does for God and His Kingdom must be based on

the individual's right relation to God. Unless he has made a real surrender of himself to God he cannot work effectively for Him. It seemed that there is a deepened realization on the part of those sharing in the discussion that the church needs a return to the "first love." As the apostle John wrote to the church at Ephesus, Rev. II, 5, we must repent and do the first works, or God's candlestick will be removed from among us.

After the WMS business meeting another discussion meeting on the topic "Visible Fruit of Church Going" was held. Rev. Immanuel Petersen of Ruskin, Nebr. gave us a very unhappy picture of the influence of many church members, of how they are stumbling blocks to others in the church and to outsiders, really preventing others from becoming Christians. He quoted from Leslie D. Weatherhead, an eminent English minister who has written many challenging books. Weatherhead states that from his observations he believes that 90% of church members in England have not come in-



to aliving relation with God, and therefore do not and cannot further the Kingdom. Rev. Petersen quoted remarks made to him about church members who really hinder the work of God. Again discussion by pastors and laymen stressed the need of surrender of ourselves to God as a prerequisite to be followed by a faithful stewardship of our means and our time to Him. We were reminded that a mere Sunday Christianity is not enough. Our lives must show that in all areas of living, in our church, in our families, in our occupations, and in our relations with our fellow men, it must be evident that we belong to Christ and that His love is in us.

Rev. Bagger, head of the Brush Institute, told of the work being done in caring for the aged and unfortunate persons unable to take a place in society. He expressed a deep desire that the Brush Institute might help those unable to care for themselves who have no one to give them the love and shelter which they need so desperately. He believes that caring for the unfortunate ones is often the means of saving homes which have been on the verge of breaking up.

### W.M.S. SERVICE

In the evening the W.M.S. presented a program on missions. The church was packed to hear Dr. Nyholm. First he sketched the history of missionary efforts of all denominations in what is now the United States. When the Episcopalians went out they asked, "Are there any Episcopalians?" If so, they began missions for Episcopalians. The Lutherans asked, "Are there any Lutherans?" If so, they did missionary work among the Lutherans. The Methodists were less critical in regard to the original denominations of those among whom they proposed to work, but the Baptists asked only, "Are there any who need Christ?" As a result the Baptists have far outstripped the others in establishing churches.

The modern missionary spirit dates back to 1792. The Moravians were first to send out foreign missionaries and have sent out greater numbers than any other denomination. The Lutheran church was very slow to begin foreign mission work and consequently lags far behind in numbers of missions and missionaries. However, the work carried on by them has been very productive and is well recognized. At

present there is much interest on the part of the Lutheran Church for foreign missions, and it appears that it may become the leader in foreign missions.

Dr. Nyholm gave the following reasons why we are interested in missions:

1. For Christ's sake—He died for the world.
  2. Because Christ commanded—Go ye into all the world.
  3. The need is great—those who do not know Christ live in unbelievable misery and degradation; and
  4. We need to Christianize the world for our own sake.
- Unless the spirit of Christ can conquer the world, communism will. The time for missionary effort is short. Some fields are already closed to us.

Dr. Nyholm named the missionaries supported by our synod and gave a short sketch of the work being done in the fields. He showed us how inadequate this work done by our fine representatives is to the great need. He laid upon our conscience, with a strong emphasis, our duty to send out many more workers prepared and dedicated to give their all to carry out Christ's last great command. We must pray that God will send out missionaries. We must be ready to go ourselves if He calls us. We must be ready to give those dear to us to missionary work. We must give our financial support. We must let our missionaries know that we are with them in their work by our prayers, our interest, and our giving. Every congregation in our district should support a missionary in addition to the work of their own congregation. Within ten years this goal should be realized.

If all of the members of our Nebraska District could have heard and accepted Dr. Nyholm's wonderful plea for foreign missions there would result a burning zeal for missions by our synod and by others throughout the world. Let us pray earnestly that we may catch the vision of God's will for the world.

The fiftieth convention of the Nebraska District was a good one. The spirit of the convention was sincere. An earnest desire to repent of the lack of interest and slackness in the Christian life was apparent. Those who planned and took an active part in the convention deserve our thanks. May we, who were privileged to attend, help to inspire our congregations to a deeper life in Christ.

## Nebraska District W.M.S.

By Mrs. Alvin Larsen

The Nebraska District W.M.S. met for their 20th annual business session at Bluffs Trinity Lutheran Church, Fremont, Neb., on Sept. 24, 1954 in conjunction with the 50th Annual Convention of the Nebraska District. The district W.M.S. president, Mrs. Urban Meyer of Minden, presided. The meeting opened with Scripture and Prayer. Mrs. S. S. Kaldahl of Oaks, Oklahoma, read from Romans the 12th chapter and offered prayer. Mrs. Clarence Schneekloth, president of the Bluffs Trinity Ladies Aid, bid us welcome to Bluffs Trinity Church. Mrs. Earl Hansen of Omaha gave the response. Mrs. Hansen read Math. 5:13-16 and offered a prayer for the work of the WMS.

Roll call was answered by 45 delegates representing 29 societies. The secretary's report was read and approved. We now have 46 societies and 1269 members in the Neb. Dist. W.M.S. Our president gave recognition to six new W.M.S. societies. These were: Altura Ladies Aid, Aurora, Colo.; Ebenezer W.M.S. Curtis, Neb.; Women's Guild, Hoffman Heights, Denver, Colo.; Christian Homebuilders, Dannebrog, Neb.; Emmaus Lutherettes, Kennard, Neb.; and Orum Ladies Aid, Orum, Neb.

The treasurer's books were audited and reported correct by Mrs. Willard Schulz and Mrs. Alfred Olsen. The treasurer's report was read and accepted. Dues received amounted to \$344.20. The project for the year (help to Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Oaks, Oklahoma, and help to the Lutheran Student Foundation, Lincoln) received \$326.55. Unspecified Missions received \$451.00. There was a balance on hand of \$130.00.

A trio, Mrs. Morris Petersen, Mrs. Royal Day, and Mrs. Raymond Francis sang for us "Beautiful Words of Jesus." Mrs. Paul Nyholm of Blair gave us a very interesting report of the Synodical Convention. Our project committee recommended: help to Ebenezer Mercy Institute, Brush, Colorado, and help to support a foreign missionary, perhaps to the extent of \$50.00 per month. It was decided to continue the discussion of our proposed project at the Saturday morning meeting of W.M.S. Mrs. Urban Meyer was re-elected president and Mrs. Archie Madsen of Fremont was elected secretary. Mrs. S. S. Kaldahl of Oaks, Oklahoma was elected to represent the Nebraska District W.M.S. on the nominating committee at the Synodical Convention to be held in June.



at Lynwood, California. Mrs. Mary Sweet of Salina, Oklahoma was elected as alternate. A rising vote of thanks was given to Mrs. Larsen, the retiring secretary. Our business meeting closed with repeating the Lord's Prayer in English.

W.M.S. sponsored a Missionary Service on Friday evening at the Bluffs Trinity Church, which is reported elsewhere.

An offering of \$95.61 was received at the service. This offering is to be equally divided between Ebenezer Mercy Institute and the South American Mission. Mrs. Elmer Hansen of Kansas City and Mrs. Chris Martens of Denver served as readers for the Missionary Service.

The W.M.S. breakfast was held on Saturday morning, at 8:00 a.m. We were served a delicious breakfast by the ladies of the Bluffs Trinity Ladies Aid. The program was opened with Scripture and prayer by Mrs. Andrew Staby of Bluffs Trinity Church. Mrs. Staby read Luke 10:2. She spoke to us of what it means as Christian homemakers can do to spread the Word of God. We were then favored with a beautiful solo by Mrs. Frances Youmans, who sang for us, "The Call of the Reapers." Pastor Clarence Paulsen of Westwood Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Kansas brought us a very inspiring message on "Missions in General." He told us that "the key to the suc-

cess of our work is the general concern we have for our fellow man. If we think only of our own group we die." Pastor Paulsen reminded us that although we may never see a mission field, except the one in which we live, that we may spread our influence with our prayers and our contributions and also by encouraging our youth to go out as missionaries.

Mrs. Martin Christensen, chairman of the courtesy committee, read a letter thanking the Bluffs Trinity Ladies Aid for their fine hospitality. A letter of thanks for the project money sent to Ebenezer Lutheran Church at Oaks, Oklahoma was read by Mrs. S. S. Kaldahl. A letter of thanks from Pastor Alvin Petersen for the project money sent to the Lutheran Student Foundation was also read.

We held a short business session. We adopted as our 1954-55 project: a budget of \$800.00 toward payment of the salary of Margaret Nissen, Missionary in the Sudan. It was also decided that all dues and project contributions should be sent to the District treasurer, Mrs. Jens Houtwed, Ruskin, Neb., before April 1st. We closed our meeting by repeating the Lord's Prayer.

We were happy to be the guests of Bluffs Trinity Lutheran Church and we deeply appreciate all that they did to make our visit such a pleasant experience. We pray that we may have God's continued blessing upon our work in the coming year.

## MARTIN LUTHER

(Continued from page 1)

stiles to the Romans and the Christians, along with his study of William of Occam and of Augustine, began to open his eyes to the fact that the peace and assurance he sought could not come through his own efforts or through works of righteousness or even through the traditions of the church. As yet, however, he had not learned the true meaning of Rom. 1:17; "The just shall live by faith."

Through further study at the University of Erfurt and through several years of teaching here and at the new University of Wittenberg, the light was dawning. A trip to Rome in behalf of his order in 1510 opened his eyes to the corruption that existed in the highest seat of the church. One day while there, kneeling on bended knees the ninety-eight steps of the famous Scala Sancta in the vain hope of receiving merit and peace, he could utter only the significant protest, "We just shall live by faith." On his return to Germany instead of being able to write, "Peace, sweet peace," he could write only, "Oh, sin, sin, sin."

In 1512 Luther as Doctor of Theology became a teacher at the Uni-

versity of Wittenberg, a position he held until shortly before he died in 1546. It was during the next four or five years that Biblical truth was unfolding to him and he was maturing as a reformer. Gradually he developed his theological platform until finally he was able to declare with conviction the three great Reformation principles: Man is justified or saved by faith in Christ without any merit of good works; every Christian, himself a priest, has direct access to God through faith in Jesus Christ; and the Bible is the only source and standard for faith and life.

At the same time he grew more and more aware of the sin and corruption that was so deeply ingrained in the Roman Catholic Church. Yet he was still a pious Catholic whose hope it was to bring true reform to his church.

It was on October 31, 1517, that he nailed his Ninety-five Theses on the door of the church at Wittenberg. These were publicly posted as a challenge to any of the church authorities to enter debate with him on the abuse of indulgences or other evils existing in the church. This act was a turning point. It stirred Rome to the core. It became the birthday of the Protestant Reformation. The next few years were crucial years,

both for the Roman Church and for young Protestantism.

Great numbers of people flocked to the new reformer. They had come to listen to him as a Catholic teacher at the University of Wittenberg. Now they turned to him as a reformer and apostle of freedom. Without purposing to do so he was widening the breach between himself and the church. In this he had to stand his ground before emperor, king, cardinal and pope. He was becoming the central figure of Europe.

Though a reformer, Luther never was a traitor. He had not purposed to leave the church. He wanted to reform it. He did not want to offend the leaders. It was only when the highest authority of the Roman hierarchy tried to force him to recant and declare his convictions and teachings erroneous that he eventually broke with the Catholic Church. When finally asked if he would recant, he answered: "Unless I am refuted and convicted by testimonies of the Scriptures or by clear arguments, I cannot and will not recant anything, since it is unsafe and dangerous to do anything against conscience." He is then supposed to have concluded: "Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me."

When forced out of the church

(Continued on page 13)



# THE LUTHER LEAGUE

Homer Larsen, Editor

## Martin Luther

By Paul C. Nyholm

### 1. Why Luther Succeeded.

The life of Luther may be divided into two chapters: his early life was marked by **fear**, but after his great spiritual experience he became in an extraordinary way a man of **faith and courage**.

As a youth he was afraid of his teachers; he writes, "I was caned in a single morning fifteen times for nothing at all." According to the custom of the times his parents exercised strict discipline: "My mother caned me for stealing a nut, until the blood came... My father once whipped me so that I ran away and felt ugly toward him." His early childhood home was one of grinding poverty, and the atmosphere was that of rugged and rough, coarse and credulous medieval peasantry. He had, of course, his happy moments, and his devout parents taught him to pray to God but also to fear witches and evil spirits. Worst of all was that he was also afraid of Jesus. He was not taught to sing "Jesus Loves Me" but to look upon Christ as a severe judge. In one of the churches Luther attended until he was fourteen years old, a picture portrayed Jesus sitting on a rainbow, with frowning face and drawn sword in His hand, coming to judge. Years afterwards, overwhelmed by fear when sudden lightning struck him to earth during a thunderstorm on a sultry summer day, July 2, 1505, the twenty-one year old Martin promised Saint Anna, "I will become a monk." But even in the monastery his heart was filled with constant fear. With all his soul he desired to find peace with God, but nothing seemed to help although he zealously tried everything the church prescribed for him: prayers, confessions, fastings, scourgings, vigils, and the strictest forms of all kinds of asceticism. For eight years he went



through a terrific spiritual struggle in order to find assurance of forgiveness of sin. After the conflict was over Luther told us that no pen could describe the mental anguish he endured.

But one day in the winter of 1512-13, while Luther was reading his Bible in the tower of the Black Monastery at Wittenberg, he suddenly came to understand the meaning of justification by faith (Rom. 1:16-17). He saw that righteousness is a gift of God; "it is not earned by good works but comes about simply through one's trust in God's gracious love."

Until this time Luther had been a man of fear. Now he became a daring soldier of the cross, a valiant hero of faith and courage. He succeeded because he so sincerely desired to find peace with God. His whole life, before and after this decisive experience, demonstrates the truth of Christ's words in Matt. 7:7 and John 18:37.

### II. What Luther Accomplished.

**1. He was a great reformer.** Luther's greatest contribution to church history is that he began the Protestant reformation and until his death was its recognized leader. Humanly speaking we are indebted to him for manifold blessings both in the religious and the moral life of the Church. Some men have brought benefits to their fellow men by originating new things, others by organizing or promoting. Luther was great in both respects. Under his leadership the Reforma-

tion was not only started but also spread all over Western Europe. Both with reference to the great principles and to the practical application, men from many countries sought and received the advice of Luther. Best of all; he lived himself what he taught others. "Men could see what faith was when they looked at Luther."

**2. He was a great pastor.** Although Luther was extremely busy tending to an endless number of tasks in connection with the spread of the Reformation, nothing could keep him from preaching, and in this lay the center and spring of his power. He continued to preach all his life, at home and wherever he went, on Sundays and during the week. His sermons were Christ-centered and were so plainly presented that "the common people heard him gladly." At the same time he was a great personal worker who took a deep interest in the numerous individuals with whom he came in contact. His staunch faith and boundless joy in God inspired and helped thousands of people.

### 3. He was a great educator.

Until the end Luther continued his work as a university professor training a great number of future pastors. But he was also much concerned that the common schools should give useful education to the boys as well as to the girls. Almost any book on history of education credits him with having given much impetus to the promotion of useful education. Within the field of religious education he made particularly valuable contributions. His Catechism has been in constant use for over 400 years. In some countries, e.g., Denmark, it has been printed in even more copies than the Bible itself.



#### 4. He was a great author.

Besides the Catechism, Luther wrote many other books, in fact he produced more books than any other writer within the long history of the Christian Church. He composed more than 350 works, an amazing accomplishment for a man who was extremely busy with a multitude of tasks and who had neither stenographer nor typewriter but wrote every line with his quill pen. And that is even more important, the contents sparkle with the originality of his genius, and with the depth of his insight into the Word of God, in the subtlety of the nature of man and in the manifold wisdom of God. His quill had a far-reaching influence in changing the course of history and was one of the most important instruments in creating the Modern German written language. Among his outstanding literary accomplishments are his translation of the Bible and his hymn writing. "A Mighty Fortress" did not only become "the battle hymn of the Reformation" but has been translated into practically every language. Luther gave his people its three most important books: Bible, hymnbook and catechism. Mention should also be made of his numerous candid and colorful letters, through which we may gain a firsthand impression of his fascinating personality. An

excellent edition is Preserved Smith's **The Life and Letters of Martin Luther**. The beginner who desires to read some of Luther's books may be referred to a handy and annotated volume **Three Treatises**, published by the Muhlenberg Press.

#### 5. He was a great cultural leader.

Luther's importance was superior not only within church and school but also within the realm of social, political, economic and cultural affairs. Not only does his writings deal with many such problems, but the basic principles he advocated caused a complete revolution in man's whole life. The great British historian Thomas Carlyle termed Luther's appearance at the Diet of Worms "the greatest scene in modern history." When Luther boldly took his position "Here I stand" over against all authorities—Pope, Emperor and Church Council—a new day for individualism and freedom dawned. Because the monk took his stand upon the Word of God as sole authority, the power of tyrants was broken, men were led out into the light of liberty and a marvelous development followed. An interesting and significant fact is that Luther, the individualist, became one of the greatest national leaders of all time and won a spectacular victory despite the fact that he was condemn-

ed by some of the mightiest religious and secular authorities in history.

#### 6. He was a great family man.

There are many men who appear great outside their homes but disappoint us when we view them in relation to their close relatives. But not so Luther! Every good Luther biography has a chapter on Luther's home life, and it certainly furnishes reading which is both highly entertaining and deeply inspiring. What a debt of gratitude we owe to the great reformer for founding the Lutheran parsonage!

7. Lastly we note that Luther was a **great man of faith and prayer**. He put his whole soul into his prayers. He said, "There is no work like prayer." His friend Melancthon once remarked that he had often surprised Luther at his prayers and had found him pleading with God for His Church, while tears were running over his furrowed cheeks. Another man completely changed his attitude to Luther by overhearing him pray. He had made a solemn vow to rid the world of this "tool of the devil," but after listening to Luther pray he became one of his loyal followers. In Luther's prayer-life lies the secret that explains his greatness in so many fields.

## NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from page 6)

countries. Pastor Donald Hansen introduced the speaker of the evening, Munchi Tudu from the Santal Mission. Munchi Tudu gave a most interesting report about the life of his people in India. He will long be remembered by all of us. We surely hope that we may have the pleasure to hear Munchi Tudu in someday should be return to this country.

Evening collection was \$155.35.

Pastor Axel Andersen closed by giving the Benediction and we all united

in singing, "Blest Be the Tie that Binds."

—Elna Lorentzen, Secretary

**Rolfe, Iowa.** The Ladies' Aid of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Rolfe, Iowa, October 13th voted overwhelmingly to begin the support of two native foreign mission workers. Since the congregation belongs to both the ELC and the UELC, one worker will be supported through each synod. At the same meeting the ladies decided that the means for support of the missionaries, as well as other Aid projects, will be by a monthly pledge system, rather than bake sales, suppers, and merchandising. Support is to begin

January 1, 1955. Rev. Alton Christensen is pastor of St. Paul's congregation.

**Pastor Thorvald Hansen**, Hartland, Wis., has accepted a call extended to him from Emmaus Lutheran Church, Racine, Wis.

**The Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Reedley, Calif.**, will celebrate its 50th anniversary Nov. 6-7. All former pastors are invited. A banquet will be held Saturday night, where the pastors will speak briefly. An effort has been made to contact former members, and any one who reads these lines is invited. The Rev. Clarence Lund is the present pastor of the church.



## BY THE FIRESIDE

### A WORD OF LIFE

A narrow window may let in the light,  
A tiny star may dispel the gloom of night,  
A little deed a mighty wrong set right.

A rose abloom, may make a desert fair,  
A single cloud may darken all the air,  
A spark may kindle ruin and despair.

A smile and there may be an end of strife,  
A look of love, and hate may sheath the knife,  
A word—ah, it may be the word of life!

—War Cry.

### HAVE A CUP

Now that coffee threatens to price itself off middle-class menus, it is interesting to observe that this is not the first time consumption of the beverage has been restricted.

During the Middle Ages coffee, in the Western world, was considered an infidel drink. It was not until long after the Renaissance that its stimulation was shared by commoner and king. When finally the steaming cup got down to a price people could pay, public coffee houses attained great popularity. Pope, Talleyrand, and other notables bespoke its virtues. Men of less renown composed essays, poems, and even musical compositions honoring coffee.

As late as 1657, coffee was still a luxury. William Harvey, the English physician who discovered the principle of the circulation of blood, died in that year. In his will he bequeathed his "most important treasure"—a 56-pound bag of coffee—to his colleagues at the London College of Physicians. Harvey directed that his friends should assemble once a month, as long as the supply of coffee lasted, to commemorate the day of his death by drinking together. (Assuming 20 physicians meeting 12 times a year, a modern calculator has figured that the specified quantity of coffee could have been stretched out over a period of more than 20 years.)—Quote.

### SLOW DOWN CHRISTIAN

As an example of how fast we live, a writer in the **Free Methodist** points

out, "The 1954 automobiles were here in 1953; July magazines were here in June; the **Saturday Evening Post** comes on Wednesday; one radio station advertises itself as 'the station with tomorrow's news today.'"

We are living too fast, especially in the city. The Lord's business requires haste, but haste often makes waste. Most of us have not time to talk to God before we begin the day's work. It reminds us of the small boys who ring the doorbells and run away without waiting for an answer. Our meditations are brief, consisting of what we say to the Lord, and when he wants to speak to us, we are gone to our daily task. A timely song for our day is William Longstaff's hymn. "Take Time to Be Holy," a stanza of which says:

"Take time to be holy,  
The world rushes on;  
Spend much time in secret  
With Jesus alone.  
By looking to Jesus,  
Like him thou shalt be,  
Thy friends in thy conduct  
His likeness shall see."

We are too busy with the world. Our friends do not see the likeness of Jesus in us. Let us remember the Parable of the Sower, in which the good seed was choked out by "the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches."

Slow down! Take time to be holy in all your work—church or secular.

—Covenant Weekly

### SANCTUARY

I like to go into a place  
When only God is there,  
And bending low upon my knees  
I bow my head in prayer.  
No doubt or fear can touch me there,  
My spirit is at rest,  
For I am in my Father's house,  
A loved and sheltered guest.  
And when I must go forth again  
Where men indifferent plod,  
I am the better for the time  
I have spent with God.

### WORTH THE PRICE

With a sparkle in his eyes, the young fellow walked into the showroom.

"If I bought this car by installments," he said, pointing to a particularly "sporty" model, "how long would it take me to pay for it?"

"That would depend on how much you could afford each month, sir," replied the salesman, cautiously.

The young man scratched his chin. "Well, I think I could manage three dollars a month."

The salesman's eyes popped.

"Three dollars a month!" he gasped. "At that rate it would take a hundred years!"

Gazing longingly at the very streamlined model, the young man said:

"So what? It's worth it."

### THE PRINCE FROM HEAVEN

What can I ask this day of you  
Whose Christmas is so bright,  
With tinsel, gems and gifts, so rare  
And gleaming candle light?

To bless this day we must believe  
Our greatest gift was given  
By God, who gave this world of ours  
The Prince of Peace from heaven.

The Christ-child came, a humble child  
To love both rich and poor;  
To teach us how to give and help  
The stranger at our door.

He came to save us all from sin.  
How could we ask for more?  
He taught to us our life to win;  
The same to rich and poor.

On this glad day let us rejoice  
And give a gift with care  
To every one the favored choice  
Of peace and joy to share.

The angel's song of peace, good will  
We'll sing it o'er and o'er.  
What joy be our's with song accord  
To hear it evermore.

—Ruth M. Ruck.

The Army cook had just whipped up orders of fried eggs for a hungry mob of soldiers. Wearied by his Herculean efforts, he sat down, yawning, lit a black cigar, and wrote a letter to his sweetheart.

"Darling," he began, "for the past three hours, shells have been bursting all around me."

The teacher gave a health talk to her class and warned her pupils never to kiss animals or birds.

"Can you give me an instance of the danger of this, Bobby?" she asked.

"Yes. My aunt Alice used to kiss her dog."

"And what happened?" encouraged the teacher.

"It died."



## MARTIN LUTHER

(Continued from page 9)

When multitudes of people, sometimes whole states, followed him he was obliged to build for these people a church home and a form of worship. It arose to the occasion. He translated the Bible into the German, thereby enriching his national language. Schaff says, "He made the Bible the people's book in

church, school and house. If he had done nothing else he would be one of the greatest benefactors of the German-speaking race." Luther developed his theology before the eyes of the people. He built for them as circumstances demanded. He wrote two catechisms for the guidance of his followers. His chief helper and fellow-laborer in the cause, Philipp Melancthon, wrote with Luther's approval the Augsburg Confession

and the Augsburg Apology, which have become the creedal statement of the Lutheran Church from that day to this.

This great Protestant reformer peculiarly belongs to the Lutheran Church. He is the father of that great communion. But he belongs to us all. He was the father of all Protestantism and we are all indebted to him.

## GOWNS PULPIT CHOIR

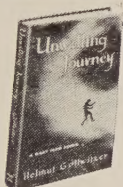
Satisfaction in Every Stitch since 1912

SUPERIOR WORKMANSHIP  
QUALITY FABRICS  
LASTING BEAUTY  
Write for catalog A16

WENTLEY & SIMON  
WEST 36 ST • NEW YORK 18, N. Y.



## MUHLENBERG PRESS



### UNWILLING JOURNEY

By Helmut Gollwitzer

"This well-written diary... is a well-balanced account of how modern Communism works." — *The Expositor*.

"A remarkable and moving book."  
— *New York Times*. \$3.50

### Two Women and A War

By Grete Paquin and Renate Hagen

"A most unusual and revealing book—ought to be read by everyone." — *Reveille*. \$3.00

at all book stores

MUHLENBERG PRESS • Philadelphia

From Your Own Book Store

## YOUR Lutheran HERITAGE

OBLIGATION: . . . to make golden the sunset of life . . . Then . . . NOW . . . Tomorrow!



"Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord, thy God, giveth thee."

EXODUS: 20:12

As we view this troubled world, which sometimes gives the impression that mankind teeters from one world crisis to another, we are reassured of mankind's progress by the modern approach to this problem of providing for the aged and infirm.

There are some 125 Lutheran homes throughout the land. These homes are provided for the aged and infirm, those less fortunate than we may be. They are powerful proof of the manner in which Lutherans face this supreme obligation.

We here at Lutheran Mutual are happy in observing the thousands of Lutherans who are providing so well for their own sunset period of life through easy savings plans in the form of ordinary or annuity forms of life insurance.

## Lutheran Mutual

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

HOME OFFICE \* WAVERLY, IOWA

How can I make certain of funds for

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

☐ family security

☐ education

☐ retirement

☐ mortgage payment



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

	Total Received	Chil- dren's Homes	School Fund	General Fund	Home Mission	Indian Mission	Utah Mission	Pen- sion Fund
<b>Total synodical budget \$256,668.60</b>	<b>14760.10</b>	<b>83300.00</b>	<b>25000.00</b>	<b>58646.50</b>	<b>7050.00</b>	<b>1512.00</b>	<b>6586.00</b>	
Previously acknowledged	40336.39	3029.37	15786.35	4349.08	8612.39	1957.76	407.39	6194.
Altura, Colo., Community Luth. Church	50.00		25.00		25.00			
Milltown, Wis., Milltown Luth. Church	300.00		125.00		100.00			75.00
Sidney, Mont., Mrs. Peter Steffens in memory of Peter Steffens	10.00				10.00			
Eugene, Ore., in memory of Jens Bertelsen of Emmaus Luth. Church from a large group of friends	38.50		38.50					
Eugene, Ore., Emmaus Ladies Aid in memory of Mrs. Hanna Mortensen, in memory of Jens Bertelsen	5.00	5.00						
Eugene, Ore., Emmaus Sunday School in memory of Bart Hansen	5.00		5.00		5.00			
Eugene, Ore., in memory of Mrs. Hanna Mortensen of Emmaus Luth. Church from a large group of friends	15.00				15.00			
Eugene, Ore., in memory of Bart Hansen of Emmaus Luth. Church	33.00	33.00						
from a very large group of friends	93.00				93.00			
Oakland, Calif., John Hansen and Matilda Hansen in memory of Mrs. H. Hansen	5.00	5.00						
Cedar Falls, Ia., Nazareth Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Nels Olsen	10.00	10.00						
Cedar Falls, Ia., Nazareth Luth. Church	350.00	25.00	125.00	50.00	100.00			50.00
Iowa District W.M.S., Neola, Ia., Life Membership honoring Mrs. N. J. Nelson on her 80th birthday	6.75							6.75
Wisconsin District W.M.S., Life Membership honoring Mrs. Marie Petersen, Eugene, Ore., from her daughter, Mrs. Paul G. Rasmussen, Neenah, Wis.	6.75							6.75
Northfield, Minn., St. Peter's Luth. Church	400.00	25.00	175.00	50.00	100.00			50.00
Laurel, Nebr., Gethsemane Ladies Aid in memory of Julius Knudsen	5.00							5.00
Milwaukee, Wis., K'ngo Luth. Church	250.00		125.00	25.00	75.00			25.00
Albert Lea, Minn., Elim Circle No. 2 of Trinity Church for Elim Home, Elk Horn	25.00	25.00						
Albert Lea, Minn., Good Cheer Circle No. 12 of Trinity Church	25.00				25.00			
Albert Lea, Minn., Trinity Luth. Church	1000.00	50.00	450.00	50.00	200.00	50.00	25.00	175.00
Kimballton, Ia., Bethany Luth. Church	27.97							27.97
Detroit, Mich., N. W. Trinity Luth. Church	500.00		250.00	25.00	100.00	25.00		100.00
Eugene, Ore., Bethesda Ladies Aid in memory of Mrs. Peter Hemingsen	5.00	5.00						
Humboldt, Ia., Trinity Luth. Church	300.00		150.00		75.00			75.00
Sidney, Mont., Andrew Lund	5.00					5.00		
San Francisco, Calif., Ansgar Ladies Aid	50.00	20.00						30.00
Easton, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Petersen in memory of Mrs. Soren Jensen, Eugene, Ore.	10.00				10.00			
Easton, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Hobert Jensen	25.00				25.00			
Omaha, Neb., Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Petersen of Pella Church: \$2.50 in memory of Mrs. Luella Nielsen, Harlan, Ia., and \$2.50 in memory of Martin Tange, Hutchinson, Minn.	5.00							5.00
Detroit, Mich., N. W. Trinity Lutheran Church	100.00		30.00	20.00	30.00			20.00
Elk Horn, Ia., Anton Petersen and daughter Palma in memory of Mrs. Jens P. Pedersen, Morgan, Minn.	2.00							2.00
Shennington, Wis., St. Peter's Ladies Aid	35.00		15.00		10.00			10.00
Racine, Wis., Emmaus Ev. Luth. Church	1000.00	75.00	425.00	100.00	200.00	40.00	10.00	150.00
Oaks, Okla., The Flint Sunday School	6.00	6.00						
Elk Horn, Ia., Miss Edel Hansen	48.55							48.55
Marcus, Ia., Nazareth Luth. Church	250.00	25.00	125.00		50.00			50.00
Eugene, Ore., in loving memory of Rev. Henry Iversen, formerly serving Emmaus Church: Emmaus Sunday School \$15, Emmaus Choir \$5, Emmaus Ladies Aid \$5, Elsie Elgaard \$10, Louise Elgaard \$10, Mr. and Mrs. Marven Mikkelsen \$2.50, Mrs. Gertrude Mikkelsen \$1, Ejvind Laursen \$2	50.50							50.50
Kennard, Nebr., Emmaus Luth. Church	27.20				27.20			
Eugene, Ore., in memory of Mrs. Peter Hemingsen of Bethesda Luth. Church: from family and friends \$46, from friends \$67	113.00	113.00						
Petaluma, Calif., Elim Luth. Church	50.00		20.00	5.00	20.00			5.00
Westby, Mont., Mr. and Mrs. George H. Nelson in memory of Ezra Jensen	5.00				5.00			
Minneapolis, Minn., Immanuel Luth. Church	588.41	35.30	188.32	58.84	129.45	17.65	5.68	152.90
Waupaca, Wis., Bethel Ladies Aid of Trinity Church in memory of Anna B. Petersen	2.00				2.00			
Flaxton, N. Dak., Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Christensen in memory of Mrs. Anna Jensen, Eugene, Ore.	3.00							3.00
Flaxton, N. Dak., Mr. and Mrs. Paul Larsen in memory of Pastor Henry Iversen, Luck, Wis.	3.00							3.00
Lincoln, Nebr., Our Savior's Luth. Church	200.00		75.00	25.00	50.00			50.00
Minneapolis, Minn., Luth. Bible Institute for Pastor A. R. Petersen	8.33							8.33
Humboldt, Ia., in memory of Mrs. A. J. Andersen of Trinity Luth. Church given by friends and relatives	9.50	4.00			5.50			
Humboldt, Ia., in memory of Mrs. Andrew Nelson of Trinity Luth. Church given by friends and neighbors	40.00	12.50			17.50			10.00
Oshkosh, Wis., Our Savior's Luth. Sunday school	10.00				10.00			
Selma, Calif., Pella Luth. Sunday school, offering and Mission Banks	36.99	9.40			15.61	5.13	6.85	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46490.84</b>	<b>3512.57</b>	<b>18133.17</b>	<b>4757.92</b>	<b>10142.65</b>	<b>2100.54</b>	<b>455.12</b>	<b>7388.87</b>

## SPECIAL MISSIONS

	Total Received	Japan Mission	South Amer. Mission	Santal Mission	Sudan Mission	Jewish Mission	China Mission	N.L.C. L.W.A.	Gen. Fd. and Foreign Mission
<b>Budget for 1954-1955</b>	<b>16000.00</b>	<b>15500.00</b>	<b>10000.00</b>	<b>15000.00</b>				<b>36720.00</b>	
Previously acknowledged	47641.33	6089.12	4226.12	4280.01	6156.88	248.13	34.47	26303.60	303.00
Sidney, Mont., Mr. and Mrs. Milton Anderson	20.00			20.00					
Fremont, Nebr., Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hendricksen in memory of Anders Andersen, Dannebrog, Nebr.	10.00			10.00					
Portland, Ore., the Esther Mission Circle of Bethany Luth. Church	10.00	10.00							
Cedar Falls, Ia., Nazareth Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Nels Olsen	14.50			14.50					
Pacific District W.M.S., Our Savior's Ladies Aid, Ferndale, Calif.	13.50	13.50							
Minnesota District W.M.S., Junior Girls' Mission, Hutchinson, Minn., for Flannelgraph Material	10.00	10.00							
Iowa District W.M.S., Jacksonville Junior Mission Society in memory of grandmother Mrs. Nels P. Nielsen	5.00							5.00	
Wisconsin District W.M.S., Life membership of Mrs. James Dyrebo, by Our Savior's Women of the Church, Neenah, Wis.	6.75		6.75						
Illinois District W.M.S.	38.83			38.83					



Lea, Minn., Junior Mission Society of Trinity Luth. church	35.00		35.00						
go, Ill., Golgotha W.M.S. offering at meeting by Munchi				35.00					
udu as speaker for the Santal Mission	42.00		42.00						
Canada District W.M.S. for their Japan project	80.10	80.10							
field, Minn., Mr. and Mrs. Hans Larsen	21.00	21.00							
field, Minn., St. Peter's Luth. Church	181.33							181.33	
r, Mont., Pella Foreign Mission Society	13.45						13.45		
Sippi, Wis., Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Andersen in memory of									
arie Fredricksen	3.00		3.00						
e, W.S., Our Savior's Luth. Sunday school, Rally Day of-									
ring	30.50		30.50						
Sippi, Wis., First English Luth. Ladies Aid Society	60.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00		
ukee, Wis., Kingo Luth. Sunday school	5.76				5.76				
ukee, Wis., Kingo Luth. Church	44.00		44.00						
t Lea, Minn., Mission Circle No. 1 of Trinity Church	30.00		30.00						
t Lea, Minn., Trinity Luth. Church	35.50	7.50	10.00	18.00					
e, Ore., Bethesda Ladies Aid in memory of Julius Olsen,									
acine, father of Pastor Ingvard Olsen	5.00					5.00			
r, Mont., Andrew Lund	5.00		5.00						
l, Nebr., Gethsemane Luth. Sunday school, a mission of-									
ring	17.65			17.65					
Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Anders C. Rosendahl	25.00		15.00	10.00					
on, Ia., Luther League Rally	27.00	27.00							
l, Nebr., Miss Margot Christensen	10.00	5.00	5.00						
uck, Wis., Mr. and Mrs. Jens Jorgensen in memory of									
oy Edling	5.00			5.00					
Sippi, Wis., First English Luth. Sunday school, China Mis-									
on offering	29.20								
e, Wis., Emmaus Ev. Luth. Church	59.74						29.29		
Okla., in memory of Fred Romer from Helen Romer,								59.74	
r. and Mrs. Robert Romer, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Romer,									
rothy Ann, John Carlton and Harold Romer	10.00		10.00						
Ia., St. Paul's Luth. Sunday school M'ssion offering	8.94		8.94						
Ia., Ladies Aid of St. Paul's Luth. Church in memory									
Caleb Jensen, Mrs. Rasmus Petersen, Merle Fisher, Rex									
rant, Mrs. Emma Hansen and Mrs. Norman Oameh	80.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00				
Colo., First English Luth. Church	100.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00				
Korea, Sgt. Stan Petersen, U.S. 55326978 in memory of									
rs. Luella Nielsen, Jacksonville, Ia.	10.00	10.00							
y, Calif., in memory of Chris Jensen of Bethel Luth.									
church: Mrs. Thorvald Jensen \$2, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Vig \$2	4.00		4.00						
orn, Ia., Miss Edel Hansen	200.00	50.00		50.00	50.00			50.00	
e, Ore., in loving memory of a former Pastor, Rev. Hen-									
iversen: Dorcas Needle Society of Emmaus Church \$5,									
ndrew D. Goldbeck \$6	11.00					11.00			
o, Ill., Frances and Edwin Jorgensen \$10 in memory of									
r. and Mrs. H. Stern Moller, Brooklyn, N. Y., and \$5 in	15.00	10.00		5.00					
emory of Ruby Christiansen Johnson, Westbrook, Me.	75.00	75.00							
Lloyd R. Neve, a refund	16.41		16.41						
nvile, Ia., Bethlehem Luth. Sunday school									
o, Ill., Atoement Luth. Sunday school for support of	100.00		100.00						
trichi Tudu									
alf of the Women's Missionary Society offering at the									
braska Di trict meeting, Fremont Bluffs	47.81		47.81						
ca, Wis., Trinity Luth. Church	30.47		30.47						
embership from the Minnesota District honoring Mrs.									
lbert Jensen, Sleepy Eye	6.75		6.75						
embership from Trinity Luth. Ladies Aid, Albert Lea,									
nn., honoring Mrs. Fred Jacobsen	6.75		6.75						
l, Nebr., Bethany Ladies Aid of Bethany Luth. Church									
Miss Margaret Nissen in memory of Mrs. Andrew									
ompson	3.00			3.00					
Calif., Pella Luth. Sunday School, offering and Mission									
inks	83.32	10.20	45.62	6.07	9.12	5.32	3.10	3.89	
TOTAL	49343.59	6473.42	4509.15	4759.38	6325.41	279.45	90.22	26603.56	303.00

CHURCH AND SCHOOL DRIVE

	Total Received	Dana Building Fund	Church Exten- sion Fd
usly acknowledged	214148.95	128597.55	85551.40
asin District W.M.S. Life Mem-			
ership honoring Mrs. Paul G. Ras-			
assen by Our Savior's Women of			
a Church, Neenah, Wis.	6.75	6.75	
Total	214155.70	128604.30	85551.40

PLEASE NOTE: In the papers of Oct. 1 was a gift of \$1.00 for the Japan Mission by Mrs. Glenn Neve, Spencer, Iowa. It should have been Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Thompson instead.  
In September there was a memorial gift by Main Street Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, Minn., for Mr. Mart'n Tange. It should have been from relatives and friends.

Received with thanks.

Blair, Nebr., Oct. 15, 1954.

H. J. Hansen, Treas.

Nebraska

FORD VAN LINES

IVING SERVICE ANYWHERE

al Agent: MRS. DAN GREENO

LEGE HILL, BLAIR, NEBRASKA

Phone 2727

GUYER AND HANSEN

LOANS

URANCE — REAL ESTATE

Successor to N. T. Lund Co.

Blair, Nebraska

le Guyer

P. V. Hansen

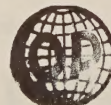
THE DANISH TRAVEL AGENCY

Overseas Passenger Bureau, Inc.

ELSE P. SEHESTED, Gen Mgr.

35 WEST 53RD STREET

NEW YORK 19, N. Y.



Telephones:

Circle 5-6146-6147

Reservations for All Ship and Air Lines

Tours Arranged. Hotel Reservations Made.

Information Free. All Details Can Be Arranged by Mail

TRAVEL TO DENMARK



Plan Now Your

# Christmas Services or Programs

## O WORSHIP THE KING

by Margaret Grorud

This is the new Christmas service for the Sunday School based on the hymn, "As With Gladness Men of Old." The development is: O Worship the King—With Gladness of Heart, At His Mercy-Seat, With Your Costliest Gifts, By Walking in His Steps, In Heaven Forever. There is a section for each department of the school, and by using speaking choirs and tableaux there is opportunity for all of the children to take part. 10c each; \$1.00 a dozen; \$7.50 a hundred.

## WHAT DO YOU SEE IN THE MANAGER?

by Viola Ashman Swanson

The first part of the service tells the familiar story of the first Christmas, featuring the prophesies, the Annunciation, the story of Mary and Joseph, and that of the shepherds and the Wise Men. In the second part all these characters in turn are asked what they see in the manager and give their answers, and then the question is directed to the congregation for their answer.

The service is brief, with few but choice songs, and—except for the Readers—use groups rather than individuals. Simplicity marks the tableaux and the costuming. The program is effective in leading up to a personal challenge and appeal. 10c each; \$1.00 a dozen

## CHRISTMAS TIME

A service which contains songs, recitations, and exercises for Sunday School use. 20c each.



## RECEIVE YOUR KING

by Robert F. Hein

This program takes its theme from the line of "Joy to the World"—"Let every heart receive her King." It has the following main parts: The King for Whom the World Waited; The King Whom Angels Sang; The King Whom Shepherds Praised; The King Whom Wise Men Worshipped; The King of Our Lives.

It contains dramatic readings of the prophets, tableaux, shepherd dialogues, interview with Herod, recitations, and popular "Old Favorite" Christmas Carols.

It is adaptable to any size school. 10c each; \$1.00 a dozen; \$8.00 a hundred

**THE OTHER WISE MEN**  
In this type of program, preparation is simple and the effect is impressive. A reader tells the story and the school or a selected group sings the songs. An optional color filmstrip has been prepared to go with this program. "The Other Wise Men" is an adaptation of Van Dyke's well-loved story. Program: 40c each; Filmstrip: \$5.00

## ABINGDON CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

New! Three full-length programs (two plays and a pageant), plus special services and programs, a tableau, a pantomime, stories and poems. 35c each

We would be glad to send you samples of any of the above programs for examination. Write today!



**Lutheran Publishing House**

200 S. Fifth Street

Blair, Nebraska

The

## Old Testament and the Fine Arts

by  
Cynthia Pearl  
Maus



A companion book to the world famous **CHRIST AND THE FINE ARTS**, bringing together the pictures, poems, hymns and stories bearing upon the greater part of the Bible into another anthology as noteworthy and as useful as its predecessor.

Here are the works of the masters—some familiar, some rarely seen—together with the work of the contemporary artists. Matched with them are the poems and prose works which further comment on the matchless stories of the Old Testament. Music, from the simple folk tunes to the great oratorios, rounds out the anthology of the fine arts built on Biblical themes.

**100 FULL-PAGE ART REPRODUCTIONS**  
**100 ART INTERPRETATIONS**  
**77 HYMNS AND INTERPRETATIONS**  
**244 POEMS — 63 STORIES**

Get this rich, incomparable book now for

**\$5.95**

\*\*\*\*\*  
Lutheran Publishing House  
200 S. Fifth Street  
Blair, Nebraska  
Please send me the following:  
—O Worship the King  
—What Do You See in the Manager  
—Receive Your King  
—Christmas Time  
—The Other Wise Men  
—Abingdon Programs  
—Samples of the above and others  
—Old Testament and the Fine Arts  
I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ C.O.D. — Charge —  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*\*

DEC 54

SEMINARY LIBRARY  
CAPITAL UNIVERSITY  
COLUMBUS 9 OHIO